

1 3. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 17, wherein the  
2 disinfectant organic dye is selected from the group consisting of methylene blue, crystal  
3 violet, and mixtures thereof.

B<sup>2</sup> 1 4. (Once Amended) A method for extending the life of a platelet  
2 concentrate and preventing the multiplication of bacteria therein comprising the step of  
3 adding between 1 and 15% by weight of citric acid and or salts of citric acid to the platelet  
4 concentrate, wherein essentially no psoralen is present.

5 5. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 4, further comprising the  
6 step of removing the citric acid and or salts of citric acid.

1 7. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 4 further comprising the  
2 step of adding an antimicrobial agent is selected from the group consisting of antibiotics,  
3 povidone iodine, iodine, polyphenols of plant origin, and disinfectant organic dyes.

B<sup>3</sup> 1 8. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 7, wherein the disinfectant  
2 organic dyes are selected from the group consisting of methylene blue, crystal violet, and  
3 mixtures thereof.

1 9. (Once Amended) A method for disinfecting solutions containing  
2 red blood cells comprising the step of adding between 1 and 15% by weight of citric acid and  
3 or salts of citric acid to the solution, wherein essentially no psoralen is present.

10. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 9, further comprising the step of removing the citric acid and or salts of citric acid.

13. (Once Amended) The method of Claim 12, wherein the disinfectant organic dyes are selected from the group consisting of methylene blue, crystal violet, and mixtures thereof.

Please enter the following newly drafted Claims 17-25:

17. A method for enhancing the antimicrobial effectiveness of a disinfectant organic dye comprising the step of combining the disinfectant organic dye with at least 1% by weight citric acid and or salts of citric acid, wherein exposure to light is not required.

18. A method for enhancing the antimicrobial effectiveness of a polyphenol of plant origin comprising the step of combining the polyphenol of plant origin with at least 1% by weight citric acid and or salts of citric acid.

19. A method for enhancing the antimicrobial effectiveness of iodine comprising the step of combining the iodine with at least 1% by weight citric acid and or salts of citric acid, wherein essentially no iodophor is used.

1                   20.    A method for enhancing the antimicrobial effectiveness of iodine and  
2    an iodophor comprising the step of combining the iodine and iodophor with at least 1% by  
3    weight citric acid and or salts of citric acid, wherein essentially no oxidizing substance except  
4    iodine is used.

1                   21.    A topical antimicrobial composition comprising iodine combined with  
2    at least 1% by weight citric acid and or salts of citric acid and consisting essentially of no  
3    iodophor.

1                   22    A topical antimicrobial composition comprising iodine and an iodophor  
2    combined with at least 1% by weight citric acid and or salts of citric acid, wherein essentially  
3    no oxidizing substance except iodine is used.

1                   23.    A topical antimicrobial composition comprising a disinfectant organic  
2    dye combined with at least 1% by weight citric acid and or salts of citric acid, wherein  
3    exposure to light is not required for effectiveness.

1                   24.    A topical antimicrobial composition comprising a polyphenol of plant  
2    origin combined with at least 1% by weight citric acid and or salts of citric acid.

1                   25    A topical antimicrobial composition comprising an antibiotic combined  
2    with at least 1% by weight citric acid and or salts of citric acid.